

## URBAN DISTRICT OF BLETCHLEY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1943.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor O. Wells, J.P.,Finance and General Purpose Committee:Chairman: Councillor S. Maycock.Councillors: H.P. Dimmock, J.P., C.D. Flack, J.P., W.G. Mells,  
A.J. Stevens, J.P., and O. Wells, J.P.Public Health Committee:Chairman: Councillor W.G. MellsCouncillors: T. Richardson, C.D. Flack, J.P., F.A. Bates,  
S. Maycock and O. Wells, J.P.Public Health Staff:Medical Officer of Health: A. Michael Critchley, M.D., D.P.H.  
(On War Service)

Acting M.O.H. Janet C. Ronaldson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H

(The Medical Officer of Health is also Medical Officer of Health for the  
Borough of Buckingham and the Rural District of Buckingham)Sanitary Inspector: A. Bates, A.M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.Cy.E.,  
A.M.P.T.I., A.M.Inst.W.E.,  
(Certificate R.S.I. & S.I. Joint  
Board and Certificate R.S.I. Meat &  
Food Inspection)



Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1943. In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular of February, 1940 it is again considerably curtailed.

While the incidence of Infectious Disease has remained at a satisfactorily low level, there was an increase in notified cases of Pneumonia and Scarlet Fever and an outbreak of Measles, none of which, However, assumed epidemic proportions.

With the freedom from air raids during 1943, many evacuees returned to London and the number of children was considerably reduced. On the other hand, full advantage of the Nursery School has been taken by local mothers in employment.

The Welfare Clinic is always well attended as is the monthly Clinic for Diphtheria Immunisation.

The Blood Transfusion Service and Child Psychology Clinic continue as in former years.

During the year a new ten-inch trunk water main was laid from Little Brickhill via Water Eaton to Far Bletchley. The primary purpose of this main was to supply a Government establishment in the area, in consequence, however, difficulties of pressure amongst the ordinary consumers have been removed and an ample and full supply is now available in the District wherever mains are laid. The Council have, with foresight, adopted a policy of supplying water in the more rural parts of the Urban and even Rural districts adjoining, on a guaranteed revenue basis. The provision of a pure water supply is undoubtedly essential in the interests of Public Health and equally in the production of clean milk.

I should again like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for their interest at all times and particularly to express my appreciation of the unfailing kindness and assistance of the Surveyor.

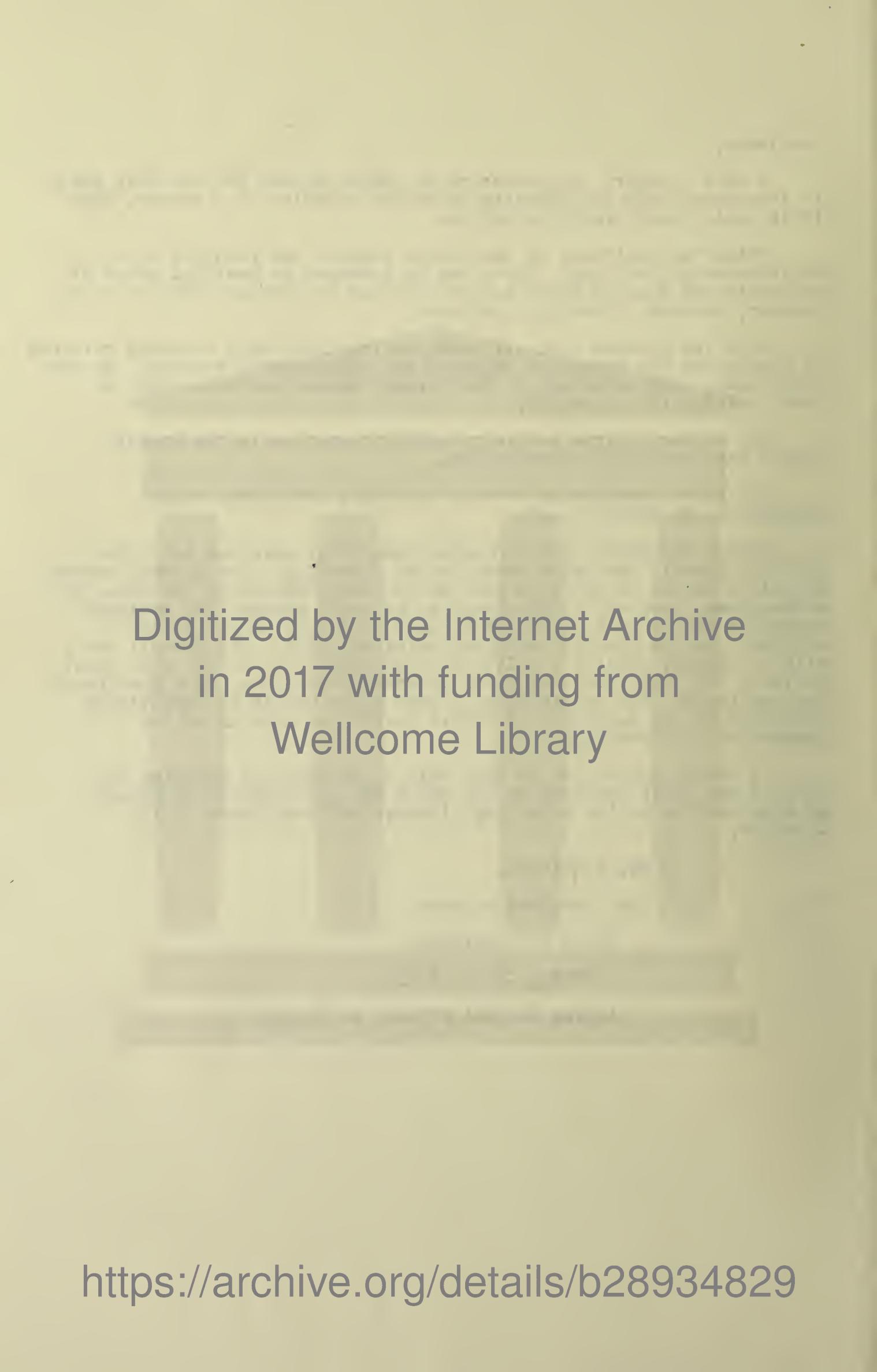
I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Janet C. Ronaldson,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

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## SECTION A

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

1943

Area (In acres) .....	4,463.
Population (Registrar General's estimate) .....	8,952
No. of inhabited houses (end of year) .....	2,400
Rateable Value .....	£51,592
Rates per £1. ....	12s. Od.
Sum represented by a 1d rate (gross) .....	£214-19-4.
 Births (legitimate) .....	Males 82
	Females 64.....146
 Births (illegitimate) .....	Males 3
	Females 4..... 7
 Still Births .....	Males 1
	Females 2..... 3
 Deaths .....	Males 42
	Females 44..... 86
 Deaths per 1,000 Population .....	9.6
Deaths from puerperal causes .....	0
Bletchley Maternal Mortality .....	0
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age .....	11
Deaths from Measles .....	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough .....	0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (Under 2 years of age) .....	0
Deaths from Diphtheria .....	0
 Principal causes of Death:	M. F. T.
Influenza .....	0 1 1
Respiratory Tuberculosis .....	1 0 1
Cancer .....	7 10 17
Diabetes .....	1 0 1
Heart Disease .....	6 7 13
Other circulatory diseases .....	2 3 5
Bronchitis .....	1 0 1
Pneumonia .....	5 2 7
Other respiratory diseases .....	1 0 1
Digestive diseases .....	1 1 2
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	0 0 0
Syphilitic Diseases .....	0 0 0
Ac:inf:encaph: .....	0 0 0
Intracranial vascular lesions .....	7 4 11
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum .....	0 0 0
Premature Births .....	1 2 3
Con:mal:Birth:inj:infant:dis: .....	2 1 3
Suicide .....	1 0 1
Road Traffic Accidents .....	4 0 4
Other violent causes .....	0 3 3
Nephritis .....	1 1 2
Cerebro-spinal Fever .....	0 1 1
All other causes .....	4 8 12
Total	45 44 89



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Public Health Staff - see Page 1 of Report.

### Health Services

2. (a) Laboratory Facilities:

The Council has arranged with the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service of the School of Pathology, Oxford, to perform its pathological investigations. An economy has thereby been effected and a fuller service been acquired.

(b) Ambulance Facilities:

The Austin 18 Ambulance continues to function satisfactorily and three A.R.P. ambulances are also available.

(c) Nursing in the home remains as in the previous reports.

(d) Clinics:

Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

The welfare has been held weekly at the School Clinic, the M.O.H. attending twice each month. The Centre has carried on its function satisfactorily. National Pool Milk has been available for supply to mothers but there seems to have been no shortage of fresh milk. The demand, therefore, for pool milk has not been great.

Other Clinics under this head have been held as in previous years.

(e) Hospitals:

No change in the hospitals serving this area has occurred since the last Medical Officer of Health's report.

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SECTION CSANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## 1. (i)

WATER

Nothing of note has occurred in connection with the water supply of the town during the year. The quality of the water remains at its usual high level and frequent samples of the supply, both at the works and throughout the town, are taken. The following is a typical analysis:-

	Parts per 100,000	Grains per Gallon
Chlorine in Chlorides	1.95	1.36
Chlorine x 1.647 = Sodium Chloride	3.20	2.24
Nitrogen as Nitrates	Nil	Nil
Saline Ammonia	Nil	Nil
Albumcid Ammonia	0.002	0.0014
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 37 degrees centigrade	0.012	0.0084

Remarks:- From a consideration of the above data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes, upon chemical grounds.

Bacteriological Analysis - 31/12/43

Count yeastral agar 2 days 37°C ..... 5 per ml.  
Probable number of coliform bacilli  
MacConkey 2 days 37°C ..... 0 per 100 ml.

This water falls into Class 1 of the Ministry of Health's grading.

Result of examination

From a consideration of the above data, no exception can be taken to the use of this water for domestic purposes, upon bacteriological grounds.

## (ii)

DRAINAGE

No new drainage work has been undertaken. The Sewage Works, despite overloading and despite certain private sewerage extensions which have been carried out on a somewhat large scale, continue to function satisfactorily.

## 2. (i)

RIVERS AND STREAMS

There has been no serious flooding during the year. The Ouse Catchment Board have cleaned out the main river of the Little Ouse and this has, no doubt, materially helped in this desirable state of affairs.

## 3. (i)

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

The whole of the drainage of Bletchley is on the water carriage system except for a few houses at Water Eaton, the conversion of which is being deferred until the Water Eaton main drainage scheme is carried out. This scheme will be put into operation as soon as circumstances permit. No Sanitary nuisance arises from these isolated cases.



(ii) PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse is still collected on a fortnightly basis and the salvage has been up to standard.

(iii) SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

Inspections Made

Water . . .	140	Housing . . .	79	Buildings .	18
Bakehouses . . .	9	Sewerage . . .	111	Destructor .	53
Factories . . .	25	Drainage . . .	85	Smoke . . . .	21
Food Premises . . .	43	Slaughterhouses .	262		
Total Inspections	846				
Houses and clothing disinfected . . . .			10		
Informal Notices . . . . .				29	
Statutory Notices . . . . .					0

(iv) SHOPS

Inspections have been made under the Shops Act of the shops in the district and no statutory action has been required to meet the provisions of the Act.

(v) CAMPING SITES

There are no registered camping sites in the Bletchley Urban Area.

(vi) SMOKE ABATEMENT

Complaints have been received during the year in respect of a canteen chimney belonging to a Government Department. Informal representations made to the Department and to the Engineer in charge of the stoking plant have resulted in a temporary abatement of the trouble and the matter is being further pressed.

(vii) SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

(a) There is no change in this position since previous reports.  
(b) There is one privately owned swimming pool which is now being used as a static water tank.

(viii) ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

There have been only two cases of Bed Bugs during the year and appropriate action was taken. Apart from a minor reoccurrence later on the cases appear to have been satisfactorily dealt with.

(ix) Schools

The number of schools remains as before, though, partly owing to the return to London of many evacuees there was a decline in the number of children.

The figures for December 1943 were as follows:-

	<u>On Roll</u>	<u>December 1943</u>
Mixed (Junior and Seniors)	92	
Infants	70	



SECTION D

HOUSING

Inspection of dwelling houses during the year.

1. (1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health of Housing Acts) ..... 47  
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose 65

(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. ..... 47  
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 38

(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..... 0

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ..... 0

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:-  
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their officers ..... 47

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year. Nil

4. Housing Act 1936 - Part IV      Overcrowding

(a) 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ..... 0  
2. Number of families dwelling therein ..... 0  
3. Number of persons dwelling therein ..... 0

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ..... 0

(c) 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ..... 0  
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases. 0

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again been overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ..... 0

(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report ..... 0

No new Council Houses have been built during the year.



SECTION E.Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply There are 34 Farms registered and 30 retailers of milk.

(b) Meat The Council's Sanitary Inspector has inspected all meat and this has meant a considerable increase in the scope of his duties not only because of the large number of animals slaughtered but also because of the irregular times of slaughtering and the great increase in the number of casualties slaughtered. It would appear that some system of centralised slaughtering after the war, such as is now in operation, would be of great benefit both to the butcher and to the public.

	No. Slaughtered	No. Inspected	No. Condemned
Cattle . . . . .	1411	1411	27
Calves . . . . .	1376	1376	3
Sheep and Lambs . . . . .	5472	5472	6
Pigs . . . . .	80	80	4
Totals	8339	8339	40

SECTION FPrevalence of and control over infectious and other diseasesDiphtheria Prophylaxis

Diphtheria prophylaxis continues as before, a clinic being held at Bletchley Welfare Clinic once a month. Attendance has been good and there is not little need to urge parents to send their children. The vaccine used is Alum-Precipitated-Toxoid (A.P.T.) given in two doses.

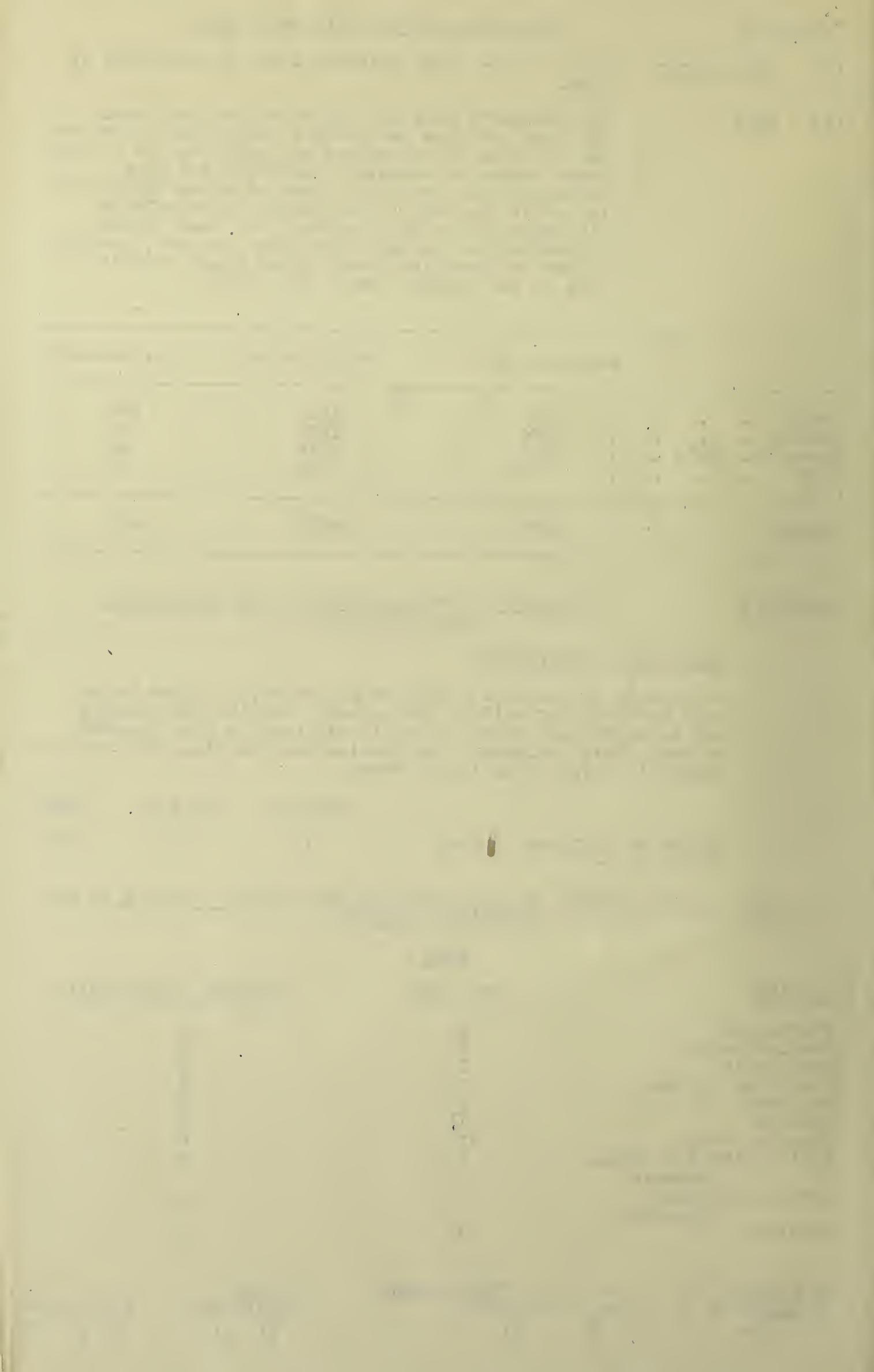
	Under 5.	Over 5.	Total
Number of children treated	75	73	148

Table showing number of cases notified and numbers admitted to an isolation Hospital

1943

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>NOTIFIED</u>	<u>ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL</u>
Diphtheria	1	1
Scarlet Fever	5	5
Erysipelas	1	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0
Pneumonia	9	0
Measles	87	0
Whooping Cough	10	0
Acute Primary Broncho- Pneumonia	8	0
Acute Influenza- Pneumonia	2	0
Scabies	1	0

<u>New Cases</u>	<u>TUBERCULOSIS</u>				<u>Deaths</u>
	<u>Non -Respiratory</u>		<u>Respiratory</u>		
<u>Respiratory</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>
	3	1	0	2	0 , 0



**CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX**

